10/1/73

Dear Harold,

Jerry Policof just called me. He told me that he thought he should call because of an advance copy of a book he just received. It is called "Nov. 22, 1963: You Are the Jury" by David Belin, forward by Harrison Salisbury, pub. by Quadrangle Books, owned by the NYT Co. Jerry has the uncorrected proofs which he got from Sprague. We spoke for a relatively short time. He told me that he is concentrating on Watergate now, and has put away his assass files. He said he has not been in touch with anyone for a long time, except Sprague and Lifton, who calls him once a week to pump him. The last time he spoke to Sylvia was about 9 months ago. He has since heard that she is to be at the symposium at Georgetown to be given on the 10th anniversary. I asked him if he intended to call you about the new book, and he said he thought it would be better if he did not, and I concurred.

He said that Sprague was asked by Berkeley to do a review of the Belin book for Computors, and that Sprague asked him (Jerry) to do it. Jerry said he didn't want to, but asked me if there was any published stuff about Belin's early memo's calling LHO the assassin. I told him none of that is out in print, and he indicated that he would like to use it in a review, hopefully not for Computors, but for a better mag. I told him forget it for Computors--it could only hurt. I hadn't time to think out anything else as far as another magazine is concerned, but I was sure that he was not the one to be using this material, and to keep it out of Sprague's hands as much as possible.

Apparently, from Jerry's glancing over, the Belin book credits Salisbury with the idea for the book. The book seems to be an awful rehash, and Salisbury's intro says that his own invest (which he admits was unfinished) showed no reason to doubt the WR.

If you think my corresp. with Belin could be used constructively at this point, I am willing, perhaps, even to ignore his stipulation of confidentiality. I can't really see how it could be of use, especially with the press reaction to be anticipated, but I haven't really thought it through. I think I should immediately write a letter to Barnes, who now has my book. If they have any serious thoughts of publishing, I would think this could only push them to a quicker decision, possibly favorable. I would think it is far too late to have the book out by even early December. At any rate, this is something about which the publisher shoudl know.

Best,
Howard